DOCKET NO.: 144166.1 / MSFT-0561 **PATENT**

Application No.: 09/717,588 **Office Action Dated:** July 17, 2007

REMARKS

Upon entry of the present amendment, claims 1, 2, 4-7 and 46-63 will remain pending in this application. Claims 3 and 8-45 were previously cancelled. Applicants submit that no new matter has been added by the present amendment.

Claim 1, 2, 4-7 and 46-63 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as allegedly being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claims 1, 2, 4-7 and 46-63 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. Claims 1, 4, 7, 47, 49, 52, 54, 57, 59 and 61 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,938,041 ("Brandow"). Applicants respectfully traverse.

Interview Summary

Applicants' undersigned representative, Mr. Eiferman, and Examiner Greta Robinson participated in a telephonic interview on September 12, 2007 to discuss the present claim amendments. Examiner Robinson agreed to reevaluate the rejections of record in view of the present claim amendments.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 101

Claim 1, 2, 4-7 and 46-63 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as allegedly being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Independent claims 1, 7, 47, 52, 57 and 59 are hereby amended to recite that the query is executed by at least one of the search providers. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 101 rejections is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1, 2, 4-7 and 46-63 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. Independent claims 1, 7, 47, 52, 57 and 59 are hereby amended to recite that the query is executed by at least one of the search providers. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 101 rejections is respectfully requested.

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Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Claims 1, 4, 7, 47, 49, 52, 54, 57, 59 and 61 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,938,041 ("Brandow"). Applicants respectfully traverse.

Independent claims 1, 7, 47, 52, 57 and 59 recite receiving information from a plurality of search providers directed to query language features supported by the respective search providers; identifying common query language features common to all of the plurality of search providers; and then transmitting the common language features to a user interface or providing a user interface that makes use of the common language features.

Brandow (see Fig. 2) discloses a single search provider (*e.g.*, server 230) for accessing one or more databases. Brandow fails to disclose a plurality of search providers, and therefore also fails to disclose identifying common query language features common to all of the plurality of search providers; and then transmitting the common language features to a user interface or providing a user interface that makes use of the common language features.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 1, 7, 47, 52, 57 and 59 and all claims depending therefrom are not anticipated by Brandow. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) rejections are respectfully requested.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Date: October 17, 2007 /Kenneth R Eiferman/

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